

City China Journal.

Established February, 1845.

Vol. XLII. No. 7114.

統一廿月五年六十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1886.

日八月四月戊

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.
LONDON.—F. ALGER, 11 & 12, Clement's
Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GEORGE
STANZET & Co., 30, Cornhill, GORDON
& GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E. C. HENRY
HENRY & Co., 37, Walbrook, E. C.
SAMUEL DEAN & Co., 160 & 164,
Ludgatehill Street.
SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports
generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Fran-
cisco.
SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE &
Co., Square, Singapore. C. HEINZEN
& Co., Manila.
CEYLON.—W. M. SMITH & Co., The
APOTHECARY CO., Colombo.
CHINA.—MCCOY, F. A. DE CERZ, SAW-
TON, QUICHE & Co., AMOY, WILSON,
NICHOLLS & Co., Foochow, HENG &
Co., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD &
Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Foochow,
Lane, Crawford & Co. and KELLY
& Co.

Banks.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK
CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL..... £2,000,000
PAID-IN..... £500,000

REGISTERED OFFICE
40, Threadneedle Street, LONDON.

BRANCHES:
In India, China, Japan and the Colonies.

THE Bank receives Money on Deposit,
buys and sells Bills of Exchange,
issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for
Collection, and transacts Banking and
Agency Business generally on terms to be
had on application.

Interest allowed on Deposits:—

Fixed for 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.

" 6 " 4 "

" 3 " 3 "

On Current Deposit Accounts 2 per cent.
per annum on the daily balance.

APPROVED CLAIMS on the ORIENTAL
BANK CORPORATION, in Liquidation, or the
Balances of such Claims, purchased

1.—By an immediate Payment in Cash of
not less than 90 % for the whole
Claim.

2.—At 100 %, Payment being made in
Fully paid Scrip of the Corporation's
34 per cent. Perpetual Debenture
Stock, carrying interest from date of
issue, and exchangeable for Stock
Warrants of \$100 with Half-Yearly
Interest Coupons attached, on the
Scrip being made up to any even
multiple of \$100.

HOLDERS OF THIS STOCK incur no liability
whatever.

H. A. HERBERT,
Manager,
Hongkong Branch.

Hongkong, April 27, 1886. 853

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL..... \$7,600,000
RESERVE FUND..... \$4,500,000
RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION
OF DIVIDENDS..... \$8,500,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PRO-
PRIETORS..... \$7,500,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman, A. MATHESON, Esq.

Deputy Chairman, M. GROTE, Esq.

J. BELL IRVING, Esq.

G. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq.

E. H. M. HUNTING-
TON, Esq.

H. L. DALEYMPLE, Esq.

A. P. McEWEN, Esq.

Esq.

H. R. F. D. SASCOON,
Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER,
Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

Acting Chief Manager, JOHN WALTERS, Esq.

MANAGER,
Shanghai, EVEN GAMBIER, Esq.

London BANKERS.—London and County
Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit Account at the rate
of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily
balance.

On Fixed Deposits:—

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

" 6 " 4 per cent. "

" 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credit granted on approved Securities,
and every description of Banking and
Commercial business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the
other Commercial places in Europe, India,
Australia, America, China and Japan.

JOHN WALTERS,
Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, May 12, 1886. 947

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG
SAVINGS' BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will
be conducted by the Hongkong and
Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their
premises in Hongkong. Business hours
on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10
to 1.

2.—Sum less than \$1. or more than \$250
at one time will not be received. No
depositor may deposit more than \$2,500
in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having
\$100 or more at their credit may at
their option transfer the same to the
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Cor-
poration on fixed deposit for 12 months
at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 34 per cent.—per
annum will be allowed to depositors
on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis
with a Pass-Book which must be pre-
sented with each payment or with-
drawal. Depositors must not make
any entries themselves in their Pass-
Books but should send them to be
written up at least twice a year, about
the beginning of January and begin-
ning of July.

6.—Correspondence as to the business of
the Bank is marked On Hongkong
Savings' Bank Business is forwarded free
by the various British Post Offices in
Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand,
but the personal attendance of the
depositor or his duly appointed agent
and the production of his Pass-Book
are necessary.

For the
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, May 7, 1886. 754

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day RE-ESTABLISHED
myself in BUSINESS at this Port, under
the Name of GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

GEO. R. STEVENS,
Pedder's Street.

Hongkong, March 24, 1886. 604

NOTICE.

WE Have This Day OPENED a
BRANCH of our Firm at SWATOW.
LAUTS & HAESLOOP.

Takow and Tsinwanfu,
17th April, 1886. 813

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the
PARTNERSHIP heretofore subsisting
between us, the undersigned THOMAS PYKE,
KENNETH DOUGLAS ADAMS and JAMES LYON
PLYMOUTH SANDERSON, as MERCHANTS
and GENERAL AGENTS, at CANTON, BIRLEY
and Foochow, under the Style of FIRMS of
BIRLEY & Co., EXPIRED on the 23rd
day of February, 1886, by effection of time.
ALL DEBTS due to and from the late Firm
will be Received. Paid by the said
KENNETH DOUGLAS ADAMS and JAMES LYON
PLYMOUTH SANDERSON, by whom the BUSI-
NESS will be carried on under the Style
or Firm of BIRLEY & Co., at Canton,
Macao and Foochow, and in London.

NOTICE.

WE Have This Day authorized Mr.
JAMES JARDINE BELL-IRVING
to sign our Firm.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, May 6, 1886. 917

NOTICE.

I HAVE admitted KHOO TEONG PAN
(KESUH HEE) as a PARTNER in my
Firm of BUN HIN CHAN & Co. of Hong-
kong from the 1st December, 1885.

KHOO TEONG-POH
(KESUH HEE)

Hongkong, May 7, 1886. 928

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NOTICE.</h3

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.
MACKENZIE, FRICKEL & CO.
VICTORIA EXCHANGE,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

HAVE FOR SALE
THE FOLLOWING
STORES.

YORK HAMS.

ROLL BUTTER.

TOPCAN BUTTER.

FRANC BUTTER.

EP'S COCOA.

VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA.

PICNIC TONGUES.

MACKEREL IN 6lb TINS.

RAISINS AND CURRANTS.

CRYSTALLIZED FRUITS.

SAVORY & MOORE'S NEW INFANT FOOD.

BARNES & CO.'S JAMS.

POTTED MEATS.

PATE DE FOIS GRAS.

SWISS MILK.

BORDEN'S

CONDENSED MILK.

COOKING STOVES.

KEROSINE LAMPS.

WINES, &c.

GILSEY'S SPARKLING SAUMUR, Pts. & Qts.

SACCOONE'S MANZANILLA.

SACCOONE'S OLD INVALID PORT.

OLD BOURBON WHISKY.

BURKE'S OLD IRISH WHISKY.

ROYAL GLENDEE WHISKY.

MARSALA.

&c., &c., &c.

THE USUAL ASSORTMENT

OF

OILMAN'S STORES,

AT THE

LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES

FOR CASH.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & CO.

Hongkong, February 10, 1886.

260

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship

Amay.

Captain R. KÖHLER, will be despatched for the above Port to-morrow, the 22nd Inst., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SIEMSEN & CO.

Hongkong, May 21, 1886.

1000

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIMOR, PORT DARWIN, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, &c.

The Steamship

Amay.

Captain HUNTER, will be despatched as above on SUNDAY, the 23rd instant, at Daylight.

This vessel has unusually good cabin accommodation, situated amidships, upon the upper deck.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWINE.

Agents.

Hongkong, May 21, 1886.

1001

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR FOOCHOW (DIRECT).

The Steamship

Bearley.

Capt. BOTTILLELL, will be despatched for the above port on SUNDAY, the 23rd instant, at 10 a.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, May 21, 1886.

1002

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Co.'s Steamship

Montral.

Commandant NAUVE, will be despatched for SHANGHAI shortly after her arrival from Europe.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, May 21, 1886.

1004

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Co.'s Steamship

Montral.

Commandant BESSET, will be despatched for KOBE and YOKOHAMA shortly after the arrival of the Mail Steamer from Europe.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, May 21, 1886.

1005

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the SUPERINTENDENT of the P. & O. CO. to Sell by Public Auction, On Account of the Concerned,

ON

SATURDAY,

the 29th May, 1886, at Noon, on the P. & O. Company's Wharf near the Office, —

THE

COMMODIOUS STEAM LAUNCH.

L. I. L. Y.

which has been recently overhauled by the H. & W. Dock Co. Length 50 feet, Beam 10 feet 6 inches, Depth 4 feet 6 inches. 5 H.P. 26 Tons.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash on delivery.

The Launch to be at Buyer's risk on the fall of the hammer.

E. JONES HUGHES,

Auctioneer.

Hongkong, May 21, 1886. 1006

UNION LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Hampshire, Captain KERSEY, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Steamer will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense, and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

Optional cargo will be forwarded on to JAPAN, unless notice to the contrary be given before 4 p.m., TUESDAY, the 21st instant.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 31st instant, or they will not be recognised.

RUSSELL & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 21, 1886. 1003

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.

Whether the Captain, the Agents, or Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessel, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

ABBE CARVEN, American barque, Capt. B. C. PENDLETON.—Order.

ALICE ROWE, Hawaiian brig, Captain J. Phillips.—Captain.

ALMA, German barque, Capt. R. Alberto Melchers & Co.

AMERICA, British steamer, Capt. Ed. L. BOUTELLIER.—Gib, Livingston & Co.

ANNA, British ship, Capt. N. B. HATFIELD.—Order.

ARTHUR, American barque, Capt. SAMUEL B. RILEY.—Order.

ATLANTIC, British ship, Captain R. F. DOUTON.—Russell & Co.

BENJAMIN S. NARROW, American ship, Capt. G. W. PENDLETON.—Adamson, Ball & Co.

BOAT, British ship, Capt. A. J. SCOTT.—Butterfield & Swire.

BRUNELLA, German barque, Capt. MEHLBURG.—Mehlburg & Co.

CARIBBEAN, British steamer, Capt. G. B. HEDGES.—Stansbury & Co.

CATANIA, British barque, Capt. MARSTON.—Captain.

WANDERING MINSTREL, British barque, Capt. H. D. ARTHUR.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

May 20, 1886.

CHOW-CHOW-FU, German steamer, 793 W. WENDT, Shanghai May 16, General.—MELCHERS & CO.

ACTIS, Danish steamer, 260, N. C. REINHOLD, Haiphong May 18, Rice.—ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.

May 21:

DON JUAN, Spanish steamer, 654, José M. MARQUEZ, Manila May 18, General.—BRANDAO & CO.

KUT SONG, British steamer, 1,498, W. O. M. YOUNG, Shanghai May 17, General.—JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO.

KONG BEANG, British steamer, 862, R. Jones, Bangkok May 16, General.—YUEN FAT HONG.

JELLINE, German steamer, 427, H. BURGE, Toulon May 17, General.—WILSON & CO.

MONTEGO BAY, British steamer, 1,699, M. H. KERRILL, London April 2, a. d. Singapore May 18, General.—WILSON & CO.

GUTHRIE, British steamer, 923, S. G. GREEN, Sydney April 24, Flat Top Island bound Shanghai.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer FALCON reports: Left Shanghai at 10 a.m. on the 17th May, experienced fine weather as far as Steep Island; after that, Southerly to S.W. winds with thick fog and rain at times. Arriving at Junk Island 12 p.m.; 20th May, steamers GLENDALE and KAI-WEI, passed homeward. Spoke steamer CANTON, from Hongkong.

The British steamer GUTHRIE reports: From Singapore to Hongkong fine weather, first part heavy rain and squalls; latter fine and very hot, S.E. winds and light, off the harbour hazy.

The British steamer GUTHRIE reports: Experienced strong S.W. gale; thick with rain and high following sea; the first 24 hours; the sea strong S.E. trades with occasional heavy rain to Mui-nipu Straits; thence light variable winds with fine weather to arrival. Passed steamer COTTERILL, May 14, h. 13, lat. 3° 20' N., long. 129° 50' E., and ship SINGAPORE of Liverpool, bound South, May 16th, in lat. 10° 20' N. long. 121° 40' E.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS WILL CLOSE:

FOR SWATOW & BANGKOK.—

Per Taichow, at 11.30 a.m., on Saturday, the 22nd inst.

FOR AMOY & SHANGHAI.—

Per Bellerophon, at 1.30 a.m., on Saturday, the 22nd inst.

FOR SAIGON.—

Per Fortuna, at 11.30 a.m., on Saturday, the 22nd inst.

FOR HONGKONG.—

Per Teichow, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 22nd inst.

DEPARTURES.

May 21:—

KUT SONG, for Whampoa.

CHOW-CHOW-FU, for Whampoa.

AGAMENON, for Shanghai.

ALICE ROWE, for Whampoa.

YUEN FAT HONG, for Whampoa.

MONTEGO BAY, for Whampoa.

GUTHRIE, for

blinded the Canton approaches with imaginary obstructions, they may have saved much expenditure of funds. Who may or may not be the gainer, it is not for us to say. Possibly more may be heard of the barriers when they come to be removed.

The Russian man-of-war *Sivtut* had arrived at Hankow on the 11th instant.

The *Prinzing Gazette* says:—In Parak, we are reliably informed, the right to gamble is firmly set, and a very respectable item of revenue in the result. Nevertheless, the practice is illegal and totally opposed to morality; but that such a decision will be arrived at by the Commission is not at all likely.

Since Messrs. S. C. Fairham & Co. have taken the job in hand, (says the *N. C. D. News*) considerable progress has been made towards sealing the big hole. It was expected she would be above water on Monday, the 17th instant. She had been lifted six feet on the 15th.

A letter in the *Japan Daily Herald* says that Orikot is distinct in Yokohama. The Correspondent supplies the following appropriate epithet:—

Create the halo, the halo, the wicket,
Rolls of Yokohama Cricket
Tennis, and the like, like it,
But bring me my lawn Tennis racket!

Some extraordinary play was seen in a match at billiards at the Billiard Hall, Argyle-street, Regent-avenue, in which J. Roberts conceded W. Cook, 3,000, start in 12,000, spot-bared. Roberts compiled the splendid break of 500, which is the best on record, beating by 65 his own performance of 401. Later in the evening he made another fine run of 306, and Cook's best run was 130.

The Shanghai Courier translates the following from the *Hupo*—Recently there appeared, in the district of Kai-ping, in Kwang-tung Province, an animal which greatly resembled a man. It had a very large head, and its height was about 8 feet. Its body was covered with black hair several inches long, and its voice was like the rumbling of thunder. Its claws were as sharp as a knife, and its skin was hard as iron. It chiefly feeds upon the dead bodies of human beings which have been newly buried. The country people have pursued it while beating gongs (to frighten it), but it ran like the wind, so that it was impossible to catch it. Even the firing of cannon could not injure it.

The Amoy Gazette of the 15th inst. has the following concerning the new levy of lekin in Formosa:—

A correspondent for *Taiwanpo*, under date of the 12th instant, writes that a complete cessation of business has followed the announcement of the proposed Lekin in *Exports*, a taxation hitherto unknown in Formosa. There was great excitement in the city. At a meeting of foreign merchants, resolutions were passed, protesting against the tax, and petitioning H. M. Consul to communicate their views to the Chinese authorities. News of a disquieting nature had been received from the North of the island, and any attempt to levy the new tax in the South, it is believed, tend to rouse the indignation of the people, who are still suffering from the effects of the recent blockade.

The Peking correspondent of the *N. C. D. News*, writing on the 9th May, refers amusingly to the diplomatic hunting of Prince Chun between Herr von Brandt and M. Ristelhuber as to who should see the Seventh Prince first, and report says the German Minister has won, the Prince having consented to receive him at Tientsin on the 17th. M. Ristelhuber will follow, and he has kindly offered to see the Prince's time by representing in his own person the whole consular body of which he is the doyen. It is not yet certain what the representatives of other powers will do, but the Ministers who have no Syndicate to 'boss' do not seem inclined to join in the chase after the Prince. Even the Consuls at Tientsin are reported to be indisposed to dispute with him of France about the honour of an interview with the distinguished visitor, and if they allow M. Ristelhuber to represent them on the occasion they will show great self-possession. He and his Syndicate will then have their own way, or at least will only have to settle accounts with the Germans.

It is said that Sir Charles Dilke has forwarded, through his legal advisers, to the Queen's Proctor, what purports to be a full and detailed statement of all the facts in his possession bearing upon the case of Crawford & Dilke. This document, it is added, contains a full, formal, and detailed denial of the truth of the statements made by Mrs. Crawford in her confession to her husband, and repeated by Mr. Crawford in the witness box. It has been forwarded to the Queen's Proctor, in the hope that official intercession may be made on the part of the public to prevent the decree being made absolute. Although on this point there is no direct or authoritative information, it is the intention of the Queen's Proctor to bring the matter before the Court. He has already acquired a considerable mass of information. The whole of the particulars in possession of the petitioner, together with other evidence not yet before the public, has been before him for some time. On May 3 Sir Charles Dilke will invite the Liberal electors of Chelsea to meet him in the Ridings School at South Kensington, when he will make a full statement of the case from his point of view.

Extracts detailing the history of the case of Chang-oh, the *N. C. D. News* expresses an opinion in which we much concur. It says:—We are very much inclined to agree with the member of Council who brought forward the question, that the men charged with piracy and murder are tramped up, and the offence of Chang-oh—if he has committed any—has not been unearthing. The delay in bringing forward evidence against a man who is according to the Canton authorities, the whole's murderer and professional pirate, is quite in accordance with Chinese methods, and we do not quarrel with the Hongkong Government having allowed ample time for the formulation of the charge. But it is ridiculous for the forms of British justice, which are accused of releasing after four months the last witness, on the evidence offered in support of the charge being found by the Colonial authorities insufficient to allow the man to be again arrested on the day following his release, and held in prison for a time that promises to be indefinite, on the same vague charges of crimes committed within Chinese territory; and for the Magistrate before whom the case comes to be adjourned for a week, with no intimation that it could then or in a reasonable time be tried. The officials with which the Scholten for the Chinese authorities had that he did not understand that the Magistrate would do more

than this, that is, in plain English, play into the hands of the Canton authorities, was quite sufficient to show the satisfaction he felt at the Magistrate's weakness. The truth, we are inclined to believe from what we have heard, is, that the Canton authorities have such a poor opinion of the firmness and intelligence of the Government of Hongkong, that they believe they can do anything they please with it.

The entire Consular Service appears to be as follows:—Consuls-General 42, of whom 4 are foreigners; Consuls 145, of whom 11 are foreigners; Vice-Consuls 428, of whom 213 are foreigners; Consular Agents 56, of whom 46 are foreigners; and Consuls with advantage, who for the advantage both of our commerce and our foreign policy ought to be British citizens. The Consuls met by port of Hungary, and proceeded eastwards; of this point as far as the pass called Ait-ai, a distance of 50 miles, delimiting the frontier as they went along. They then reached their stops to the Gateway, and started off in a westerly direction, the work of delimitation being carried on as far as Ping-kuwan, distant from Chen Nan Kwan 60 miles. When this point had been reached, the hot season had arrived, and the Commissioners mutually agreed to adjourn their labours until October next, when the work of delimitation will be resumed at the sea and at a place called Hailung. The Commissioners will then traverse the frontier to Yunnan, completing their work at Lao Kai. What has been accomplished does not represent much of the distance to be delimited, but it represents a good proportion of the work, as the Commissioners are now at one as to the principle on which their task is to be performed, and the discussions which have hitherto delayed the work are not likely to recur.

DISTURBED STATE OF ANNAM.

Annam is still apparently in a very disturbed state, notwithstanding all the efforts which have been put forth by the French Government to pacify that troublesome country. By the arrival of the German steamer *Forwaerts*, Captain Bruhn, from Touren to-day, we gather that the rebels, or pirates, have lately appeared in great force between the port of Touren and Phu Phai, a town about 20 miles inland by river. Hitherto they have contented themselves with trying to stop the importation of provisions, &c., into Touren, but to be glad if this forecast were to prove correct.

I thank you in the name of Her Majesty's Government for your loyal vote of a further sum of £60,000 for the completion of the Military Defences of the Colony. These works are proceeding as fast as is possible, and I have been instructed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the greater part of the armament will probably be concentrated to Hongkong during the current year. The mountings of the breech-loading guns are of now, and require to be speedily tested, and this of course to some extent retards the supply.

The small though powerful ironclad *Victorine*, the first class and second class torpedo boats are already stationed here, and four more first class torpedo boats are to be sent out, two of which I am informed are now on their way. When the forts have been completed—and they are being pushed forward by General Cameron as vigorously as the nature of the work will allow—the Colony need be under no serious apprehension of foreign attack.

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With regard to Public Works, satisfactory progress continues to be made with the works for the extension of the public water-supply, and it is estimated—at the present rate of progress—that the tunnel intended to convey the water from Tsimshau to the Hongkong Court will be completed before the end next year; whereupon the new supply will be made available for public use, and an important measure of relief obtained, without having to await the completion of the Reservoir in the following year.

A further large instalment of useful sanitary work has been effected during the past season in the reconstruction and extension of the main drainage and sewerage system of the town, principally in the Chinese quarters. Contracts have been entered into also for the completion of the new Victoria College within eighteen months from the present date, and arrangements have been made for the further development of the western suburb of Kennedy Town by the formation of new streets and thoroughfares, and the erection of an adequate Police Station for the protection of the growing interests of that rising locality. The new permanent Lazarus Building at Stone Cutters Island which were contracted to be finished by the 1st July will be completed by that date, and will become available for occupation should this occur.

Among other measures for the better prevention of Oolite epidemics in the Colony, to which subject your attention was directed during last session, I have approved a large extension to the present Cattle market building at Kennedy Town, by which means all live stock imported into the Colony and imported for our market, will be brought under close and continuous inspection, thus rendering feasible a more effective protection of the food supplies of the public.

I believe it will be necessary to summon a special meeting in the month of September next, in order to consider the Estimates for the ensuing year; but the opening of the next annual Session will not take place until October or November, in accordance with the practice of the two past years.

The financial position of the Colony at

the beginning of the present year was better than had been anticipated. The Revenue of 1885, which had been estimated at £1,237,558 per annum, or £1,351,890, besides £8,659 for revenue on sales of land. The same year when the Revenue has been larger than 1883 when, owing to exceptional circumstances, a very large amount was received from license for boiling opium for exportation. The marked increase of receipts over 1884 due no doubt to the termination of the hostilities recently carried on in this part of the world.

In consequence of this improvement in the Revenue of 1885, the balance of assets at the commencement of the present year was £427,692 instead of £190,088 as estimated in October last.

I am happy to inform you that the receipts during the first quarter of the present year have been about £17,000 in excess of the Estimates, and £27,62 in excess of the receipts during the first quarter of 1885, thus exhibiting a continued healthy development of commerce.

In consequence of this satisfactory condition of the finances, it will probably not be necessary for the Colony to borrow any money until towards the end of the year, and I do not anticipate that a larger amount than £900,000 will be required this year.

Before this satisfactory condition of the finances had been ascertained by the closing of the accounts of the past year, it was thought that it would be necessary to raise extra Revenue for the purpose of defraying the interest and sinking fund on the loan, which will amount to £200,000, or £15,000 a year, when the whole £200,000 will have been borrowed; and the Council, being consulted on the means to be devised for providing more funds, unanimously recommended that a loan of £100,000 should be taken out, but by an increase of the stamp duty.

A Special Committee of this Council, to whom the question of extra stamp duties was referred for consideration, reported after full investigation that no urgency exists for extra taxation at the present time, and recommended that the consideration of increase of Revenue should be postponed. I accordingly announced to the Council that I would not proceed any further with this session with the measure proposed for this purpose. It does not seem probable that any extra taxation will be necessary until the whole amount of £200,000 has been borrowed. One of the Unofficial Members has even expressed the opinion that the ordinary Revenue which we shall receive will, through the progressive development of our commerce, be sufficient to meet all call made upon it. I should be glad if this forecast were to prove correct.

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Merchant Vessels in Hongkong Harbour.

Exclusive of late Arrivals and Departures reported to-day.

To facilitate finding the position of any vessel in the Harbour, the Anchorage is divided into ten Sections, commencing at Green Island. Vessels near the Hongkong shore are marked *a*, near the Kowlong shore *b*, and those in the body of the Harbour or midway between each shore are marked *c*, in conjunction with the figures denoting the sections.

Section.

1. From Green Island to the Gas Works.
2. From Green Island to Jardine's Wharf.
3. From Jardine's Wharf to the Harbour Master's Office.
4. From Harbour Master's to the P. & O. Co.'s Office.
5. From P. & O. Co.'s Office to Peddar's Wharf.
6. From Peddar's Wharf to the Naval Yard.
7. From Naval Yard to Blue Buildings.
8. From Blue Buildings to East Point.
9. From East Point to Kowlong.
10. From Kowlong to North Point.
11. From North Point to Kowlong Wharves.

INSURANCES.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

(FIRE AND LIFE.)

CAPITAL.—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against the Risk of FIRE or Buildings or Goods stored thereon, or Goods on board Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be received, and transmitted to the Directors for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on first class Lives up to £1,000 on a Single Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of proposals or any other information, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.

Agents, Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 1, 1887.

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship CITY OF PIAO DE JANEIRO will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 25th Instant, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Passengers attending the event, accompanied by the enthusiasm which attended the memorable proceedings of yesterday week, when the Home Rule measure was proposed. At noon yesterday but ninety seats on the floor of the House had been "filled" and these were nearly all taken by Irish members. At 4 o'clock the House was crowded to its utmost capacity. Gladstone spoke for two hours and a half, and was received with a unanimous verdict of "Hear, hear!"

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japanese Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

Return Passengers—Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within six months, will be allowed a discount of 20% from Return Fare; if re-embarking within one year, an allowance of 10% will be made from Return Fare. Pre-Paid Return Passage Orders, available for one year, will be issued at a Discount of 25% from Return Fare. These allowances do not apply through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

The speaker, however, has been informed that the landlords of Ireland would greatly benefit the tenants of Ireland, but the landlords were most hostile to the Government's policy.

At the outset the speaker wished to make an emphatic denial that it was his intention to ask Scotland and England to run any pecuniary risk on account of the landlords of Ireland. The history of Ireland has originated and increased under the abominable system of the landlords and the rating of rates, as their expenses while away from Ireland increased. Oppression would be misery had a hideous progeny. Crime had been eradicated with vitality and handed down an undesirable inheritance from generation to generation. England was not the only country of responsibility, for the deeds of the Irish landlords were English deeds.

"With the power in our hands we have locked on and done nothing." After the union, continued Gladstone, obsecracy and